Amendments to the Claims:

This listing of claims will replace all prior versions, and listings, of claims in the application:

Listing of Claims:

1. (Currently amended) A high-speed interconnection adapter that comprises:

a first-in-first-out (FIFO) buffer for each of a plurality of channels; and

a reconstruction logic coupled to the FIFO buffers and configured to monitor output symbols in the FIFO buffers during a training sequence for start symbols, wherein upon detection of a start symbol from less than all the FIFO buffers the reconstruction logic is configured to suspend output from the FIFO buffers in which start symbols were detected, discard symbols from FIFO buffers where start symbols are not detected, and wherein the suspension and discarding continues until start symbols are detected in all FIFO buffers.

2. (Original) The adapter of claim 1, wherein once start symbols are detected in all FIFO buffers the reconstruction logic is configured to retrieve symbol groups in sequence from the FIFO buffers, each symbol group consisting of one symbol from each FIFO buffer.

3. (Original) The adapter of claim 2, wherein the reconstruction logic is configured to form a symbol sequence by ordering symbols with the symbol groups and concatenating the symbol groups which represent data.

4. (Original) The adapter of claim 3, wherein the symbols are eight-bit bytes.

5. (Original) The adapter of claim 3, wherein comma symbol groups and skip symbol groups do not represent data.

6. (Original) The adapter of claim 1, wherein the start symbol is a comma symbol.

7. (Original) The adapter of claim 1, the suspension is limited to less than a predetermined number of symbol periods, and wherein if start symbols are not detected in all FIFO buffers at the end of the predetermined number of symbol periods, the FIFO buffers are cleared and the suspension is lifted.

8.-9. (Canceled).

10. (Original) The adapter of claim 1, further comprising:

a channel decoder for each of the plurality of channels configured to provide symbols to the FIFO buffers, wherein the channels are independent serial channels, and wherein the channel decoder is an 8B/10B code decoder.

11. (Currently amended) A method of de-skewing data received via a plurality of channels, wherein the method comprises:

receiving, during a training period, symbols into a plurality of FIFO buffers that corresponds to a respective plurality of communication channels;

for each FIFO buffer, removing symbols until a start symbol is detected;

upon detection of one or more start symbols from less than all of the plurality of FIFO buffers, suspending removal from those FIFO buffers in which a start symbol is detected;

discarding symbols from FIFO buffers where start symbols are not detected until a start symbol is detected in each FIFO buffer.

12. (Original) The method of claim 11, wherein said suspending lasts for a maximum number of symbol periods unless start symbols are detected in all the FIFO buffers.

13. (Canceled).

14. (Currently amended) The method of claim 11, further comprising:
upon detection of start symbols in all of the plurality of FIFO buffers, ending the training period and retrieving actual data symbol groups in sequence from the FIFO buffers, each actual data symbol group consisting of one symbol from each FIFO buffer.

15. (Original) The method of claim 14, further comprising:
combining symbol groups to produce an output symbol sequence.

16.-19. (Canceled).

20. (New) A method comprising:
training receivers at each end of communication link comprising a first device and a second device coupled by a plurality serial lanes, the training comprising:
sending a known training start symbol and a plurality of known training data symbols across each serial lane from the first device;
receiving the symbols in a plurality of buffers, one buffer each for each serial lane, in the second device;
discarding the symbols from each buffer until the training start symbol is reached; and thereby
de-skewing each serial lane;
sending actual data between the first device and the second device across the plurality of serial lanes after the training step.

21. (New) The method as defined in claim 20 further comprising, after discarding and de-skewing, receiving a plurality of training data symbols to verify that the serial lanes have been de-skewed.

22. (New) The method as defined in claim 20 wherein discarding the symbols further comprises discarding the symbols only during a training period.

23. (New) The method as defined in claim 22 further comprising clearing the plurality of buffers if discarding the symbols continues for more than a predetermined number of symbols.